

S/N unknown

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: PETROGIANNIS et al. Serial No.: unknown

Filed: concurrent herewith Docket No.: 9680.189USU1

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR THE APPROVAL OF AN ELECTRONIC DOCUMENT OVER A NETWORK

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

'Express Mail' mailing label number: EV 037641016US

Date of Deposit: December 14, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service 'Express Mail Post Office To Addressee' service under 37 CFR 1.10 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By: 
Name: Chris Stordahl

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the following preliminary amendment:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend page 5, paragraph 7, line 1 as follows:

enrolment information assigned to each of the plurality of correspondents, this enrolment information allowing a corresponding one of the plurality of correspondents to access the enrolment tools on the proponent server from his correspondent terminal.

5 The system also includes transmitting means for transmitting each of the enrolment information to the correspondent terminal of the corresponding one of the plurality of correspondents.

A correspondent application is further included, and is providable on the correspondent terminal of each one of said plurality of correspondents, using the

10 enrolment tools accessed through the enrolment information. The correspondent application allows the corresponding one of the plurality of correspondents to remotely access the approval tools on the proponent server through the network from the correspondent terminal. The correspondent is thereby able to approve the at least one electronic document on his correspondent terminal using the approval
15 tools.

The present invention advantageously allows the implementation of electronic signatures in networked environments such as the Internet and the Web. It is particularly geared towards users that need to verify or sign electronic documents exchanged using messaging applications. Typically, the electronic documents may
20 be contractual in nature and usually in MS Word or Adobe PDF format, although other formats are also supported.

Other features and advantages of the present invention will be better understood upon reading of preferred embodiments thereof with reference to the appended drawings.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a diagram showing the interconnection between the various components of a system according to a preferred embodiment of the invention.

FIGS. 2A 2B and 2C show a flow chart illustrating a preferred embodiment of a
30 method according to the present invention, showing on which computer system each step is performed.

REMARKS

The above preliminary amendment is made add a drawings figure reference.

Applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment described herein be entered into the record prior to calculation of the filing fee and prior to examination and consideration of the above-identified application.

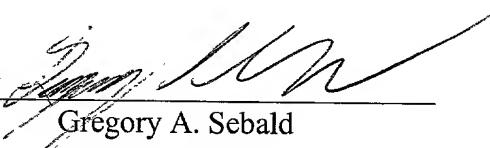
If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Gregory A. Sebald (Reg. No. 33,280), at (612) 336.4728.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: December 14, 2001

GAS/pjk/jlh

By 
Gregory A. Sebald
Reg. No. 33,280

MARKED-UP VERSION

enrolment information assigned to each of the plurality of correspondents, this enrolment information allowing a corresponding one of the plurality of correspondents to access the enrolment tools on the proponent server from his correspondent terminal.

5 The system also includes transmitting means for transmitting each of the enrolment information to the correspondent terminal of the corresponding one of the plurality of correspondents.

A correspondent application is further included, and is providable on the correspondent terminal of each one of said plurality of correspondents, using the 10 enrolment tools accessed through the enrolment information. The correspondent application allows the corresponding one of the plurality of correspondents to remotely access the approval tools on the proponent server through the network from the correspondent terminal. The correspondent is thereby able to approve the at least one electronic document on his correspondent terminal using the approval 15 tools.

The present invention advantageously allows the implementation of electronic signatures in networked environments such as the Internet and the Web. It is particularly geared towards users that need to verify or sign electronic documents exchanged using messaging applications. Typically, the electronic documents may 20 be contractual in nature and usually in MS Word or Adobe PDF format, although other formats are also supported.

Other features and advantages of the present invention will be better understood upon reading of preferred embodiments thereof with reference to the appended drawings.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a diagram showing the interconnection between the various components of a system according to a preferred embodiment of the invention.

FIGs. 2A and 2C show a flow chart illustrating a preferred embodiment of a 30 method according to the present invention, showing on which computer system each step is performed.